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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/773,033

02/04/2004

Brian Moon

1251.185

5698

21917 7590 03/30/2007
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EXAMINER

AYRES, TIMOTHY MICHAEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3637

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/30/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/773,033	Applicant(s) MOON ET AL.	
	Examiner Timothy M. Ayres	Art Unit 3637	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 February 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 September 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The amendment filed 2/28/07 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: An embodiment with a single drawer rolling on the bottom of the cabinet is not contemplated, described or shown in the original filed disclosure.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 5, 12, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The spring tabs are not shown or described with enough detail so that one of ordinary skill in the art can ascertain how they are constructed and connected to the

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apertures. Specifically it is unclear as to how are the spring tabs "constructed and arranged" to cooperate with an aperture.

4. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Regarding claim 1, a plurality of drawer guides and at least one drawer is claimed. A plurality of drawer guides implies that there is at least two guides, but claim 1 and in specific the phrase "said drawer guides constructed and arranged to cooperate with at least one drawer to provide support and prevent tipping and canting of said at least one drawer". The specification does not enable one skilled in the art to make a cabinet with only two drawer guides to provide support and prevent tipping and canting.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. Claims 1, 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,474,759 to Hsu in view of US Patent 4,193,649 to Sharon. Hsu teaches a plastic cabinet that can have drawers as seen in figure 11. The cabinet is made up of a base panel (1), top panel (5), left side panel (2), right side panel (3), and back panel (4). The top and bottom panels (1,5) connect to the side and back panels (2,3,4) with a means for attaching (11, 12, 51, 21,25,41,42,31,35). The means for attaching (11, 12, 51, 21,25,41,42,31,35) is posts (35, 42, 25, 21, 31, 41) on the side and back panels

(2,3,4) that have integrally formed spring tabs (A') that communicate with locking sockets (11,12, 51) in the base and top panels (1, 5) as seen in figure 1 and 7 below.

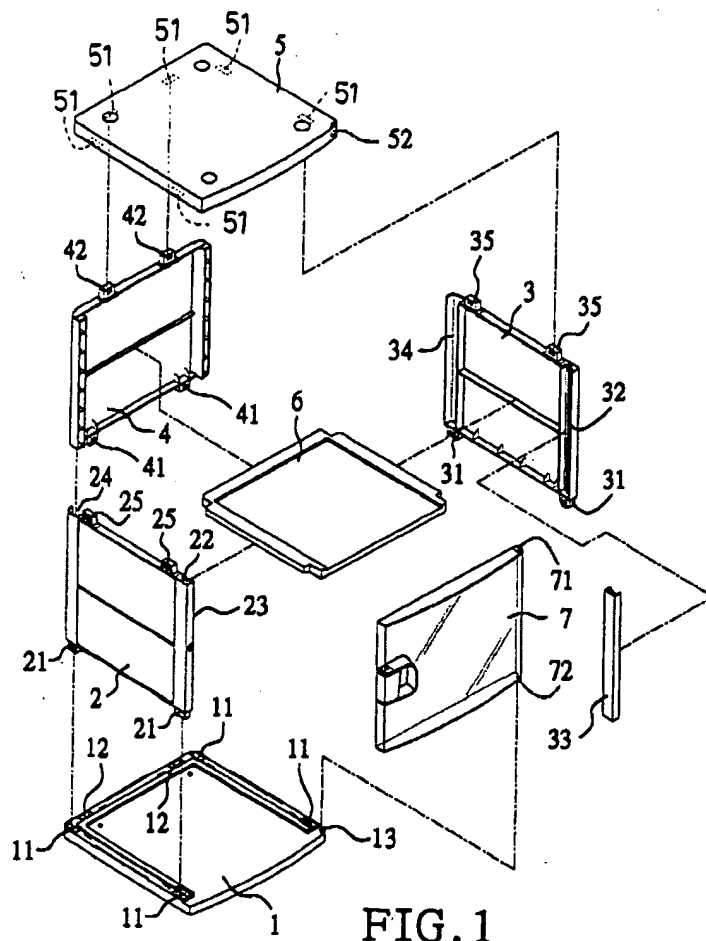


FIG. 1

Hsu '759 Figure 1

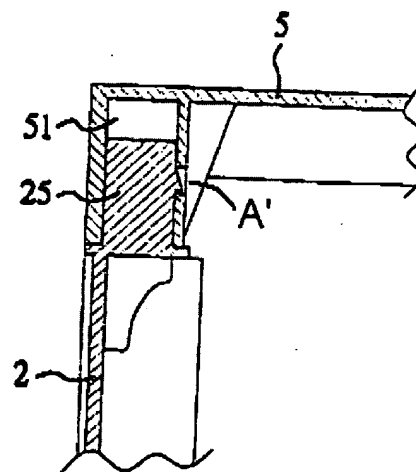


FIG. 7

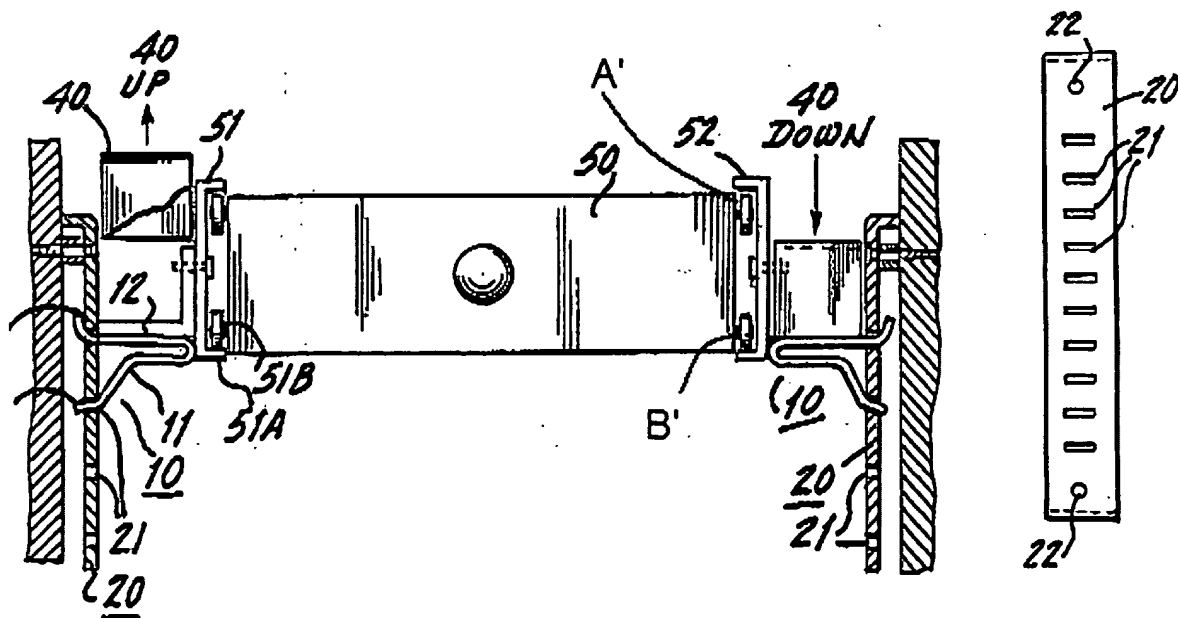
Hsu '759 Figure 7

6. Hsu does not expressly disclose the locking posts on the top and bottom panels, a plurality of guides that fit in to apertures formed in vertical rails, a combination of various sized drawers, and the drawer with upper and lower rollers. Sharon teaches drawer glide system that includes drawer glides (51, 52) that have clips (10) to insert into apertures (21) on a vertical rail (20). The glides (51, 52) are considered to have a

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general L-shape. This system allows for different sized drawers to be used in the cabinet. (Col. 1, lines 39-44). The drawer has an upper and lower roller (A', B') to engage with the drawer glide (51, 52). At the time of the invention it would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the cabinet of Hsu by adding the vertical rails and drawer glide structure as taught by Sharon to allow for adjustable drawers (Sharon '649, Col. 1, lines 39-44)

7. Hsu in view of Sharon discloses the claimed invention except the posts are on the side and back panels and the sockets are on the top and bottom panels. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have the posts extend from the top and bottom panels and have the sockets on the side and back panels, since it has been held that a mere reversal of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Einstein*, 8 USPQ 167.



Sharon '649 Figure 4

Sharon'649 Figure 2

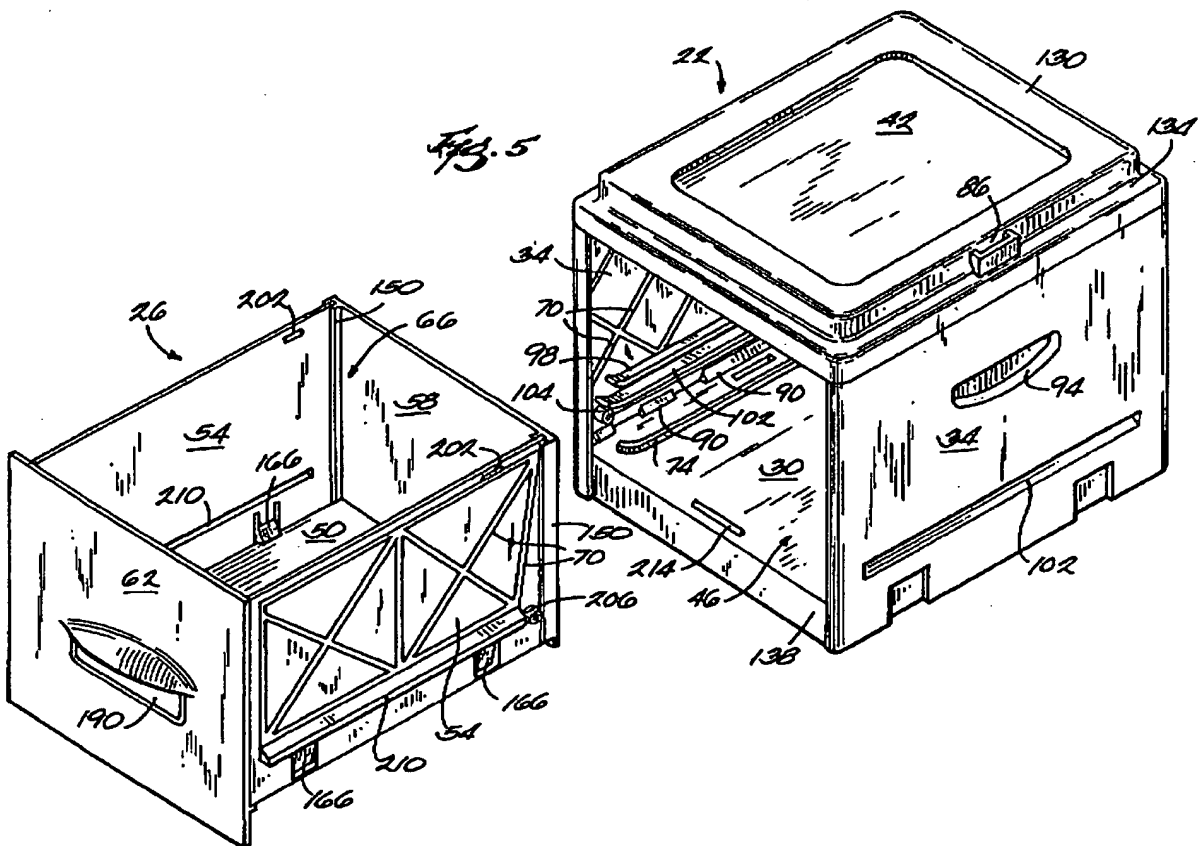
8. Claims 2, 3, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,474,759 to Hsu in view of US Patent 4,193,649 to Sharon as applied to claims 1 and 11-16 above, and further in view of US Patent 5,496,105 to Czarnecky. Hsu in view of Sharon discloses every element as claimed and discussed above except the pair of vertical rails integrally molded on each inner surface of the side panels and the base panel including cross bracing. Czarnecky teaches side panels (18) of a drawer cabinet with inner surfaces (30) having integral vertical rails with slots (40, 42). As seen in figure 9, a cross bracing (110) is used to strengthen the bottom of the drawer. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the drawer cabinet of Hsu in view of Sharon by having the vertically rails be integral molded in the side panels as taught by Czarnecky to allow for easier cleaning and with less individual parts easier assembly and cheaper manufacturing.

9. Regarding claim 17, at the time of the invention it would be obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the cabinet of Hsu in view of Sharon by using the teaching of strengthening a base panel of drawer as taught by Czarnecky and to apply that teaching to give more strength to the base panel of the cabinet.

10. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,474,759 to Hsu in view of US Patent 4,193,649 to Sharon as applied to claims 1 and 11-16 above, and further in view of US Patent 6,193,340 to Schenker. Hsu in

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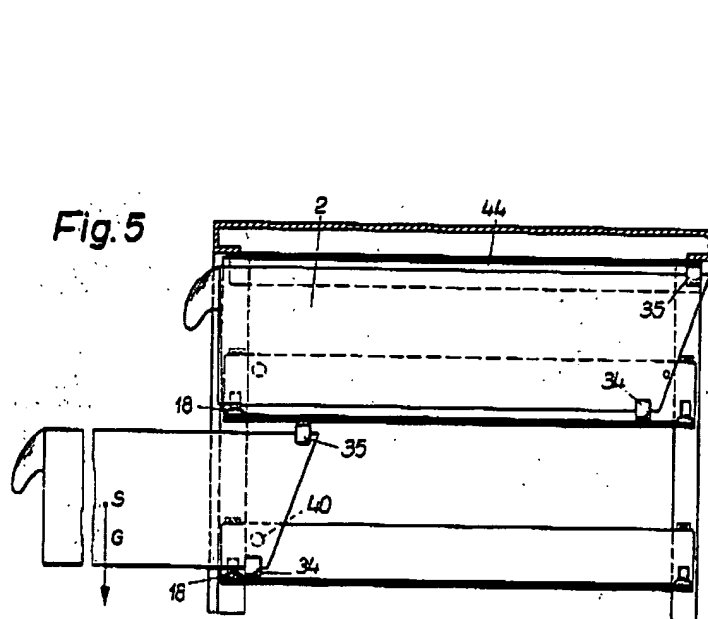
view of Sharon discloses every element as claimed and discussed above except the base panel including cross bracing. Schenker teaches cross braces (70) formed in the sidewalls (54) and bottom (50) of the drawer (26) to help strengthen it as seen in figure 4. At the time of the invention it would be obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the cabinet of Hsu in view of Sharon by using the teaching of strengthening a base panel and side panel of drawer as taught by Schenker and to apply that teaching to give more strength to the base panel of the cabinet.



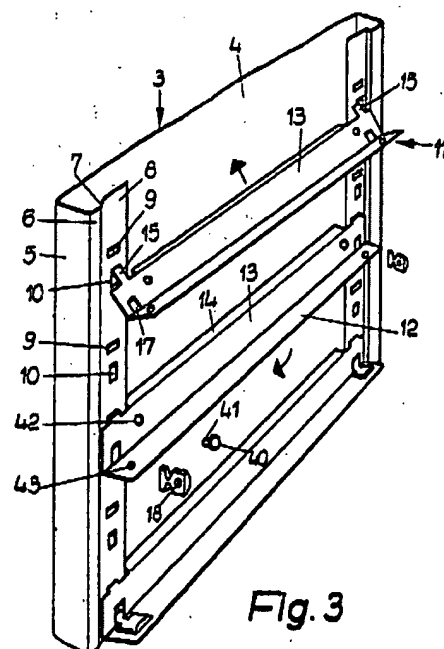
Schenker '340 Figure 5

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11. Claims 1-4 and 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 3,572,874 to Hassel in view of US Patent 6,474,759 to Hsu. Hassel teaches a cabinet (1) with drawers (2). The drawer glides (11) are mounted with locking posts (16,15) that have a conjugate shape and extend through apertures (9) in integral vertical rail (8) that are formed on the side wall (3). The drawer glides (11) are L-shaped with a vertical leg (13) and horizontal leg (12). The drawers (2) have slides (34,35) and the rear portion of the drawer (2). A locking member (18) extends through an opening (17) in the vertical leg (13) of the drawer glide (11) and an aperture (10) on the vertical rail (8) to secure the drawer glide (11) in place. The upper slides (35) contact the bottom of the drawer glide (11) that is above the drawer (2) and the lower slides (34) on the drawer (2) contact a drawer glide (11) that is relatively level with the drawer (2).



Hassel '874 Figure 5



Hassel '874 Figure 3

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12. Hassel does not expressly disclose specific attachment means of the panels of the cabinet and rollers on the drawer.

13. Hsu teaches a plastic cabinet that can have drawers as seen in figure 11. The cabinet is made up of a base panel (1), top panel (5), left side panel (2), right side panel (3), and back panel (4). The top and bottom panels (1,5) connect to the side and back panels (2,3,4) with a means for attaching (11, 12, 51, 21,25,41,42,31,35). The means for attaching (11, 12, 51, 21,25,41,42,31,35) is posts (35, 42, 25, 21, 31, 41) on the side and back panels (2,3,4) that have integrally formed spring tabs (A') that communicate with locking sockets (11,12, 51) in the base and top panels (1, 5) as seen in figure 1 and 7 above. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the cabinet of Hassel by making the panels out of plastic and adding the posts and sockets as taught by Hsu to be easier to assemble and sturdier.

14. Hassel in view of Hsu does not expressly disclose rollers on the drawers. The Office takes official notice that it is well known to use rollers in drawer construction since they provide less friction than slide elements. Therefore at the time of the invention it would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the drawer of Hassel in view of Hsu by replacing the slide elements (35,34) with rollers to make it easier to slide the drawer by reducing the friction between the drawer and the cabinet.

15. Hassel in view of Hsu discloses the claimed invention except the posts are on the side and back panels and the sockets are on the top and bottom panels. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have the posts extend from the top and bottom panels and have the sockets on

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the side and back panels, since it has been held that a mere reversal of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Einstein*, 8 USPQ 167.

16. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 3,572,874 to Hassel in view of US Patent 6,474,759 to Hsu as applied to claims 1-4 and 11-16 above, and further in view of US Patent 6,193,340 to Schenker. Hassel in view of Hsu discloses every element as claimed and discussed above except the base panel including cross bracing. Schenker teaches cross braces (70) formed in the sidewalls (54) and bottom (50) of the drawer (26) to help strengthen it as seen in figure 4. At the time of the invention it would be obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the cabinet of Hassel in view of Hsu by using the teaching of strengthening a base panel and side panel of drawer as taught by Schenker and to apply that teaching to give more strength to the base panel of the cabinet.

17. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 3,572,874 to Hassel in view of US Patent 6,474,759 to Hsu as applied to claims 1-4 and 11-16 above, and further in view of US Patent 5,496,105 to Czarnecky. Hassel in view of Hsu discloses every element as claimed and discussed above except the base panel including cross bracing. Czarnecky teaches side panels (18) of a drawer cabinet with inner surfaces (30) having integral vertical rails with slots (40, 42). As seen in figure 9, a cross bracing (110) is used to strengthen the bottom of the drawer. At the

time of the invention it would be obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the cabinet of Hassel in view of Hsu by using the teaching of strengthening a base panel as taught by Czarnecky and to apply that teaching to give more strength to the base panel of the cabinet.

Response to Arguments

18. Applicant's arguments filed 2/28/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding the argument about the enablement of the spring tabs, the patent 6,988,780 is considered by the examiner to show the same detail of this patent application and does provide any additional light into the structure of the springs tabs. Furthermore it is considered by the examiner that the patent to Hsu discloses spring tabs to the same level of detail of applicant's disclosure and the applicant cannot argue both that the specification and drawings of this application are enabling while saying Hsu does not teach spring tabs because they are only shown in the figures, but are not discussed in the specification. Regarding the argument to the 112.1 rejection about the single drawer, a new matter rejection is made to the additional embodiment described in the specification since the embodiment as described was not supported by the original disclosure. Furthermore ignoring the new matter issues, the amendment to the specification still does not enable only two drawer guides to provide support while preventing tipping and canting to a single drawer. In the embodiment provided in the amendment to the specification, the bottom of the cabinet is supporting the drawer and

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not the plurality of drawer guides as required by claim 1, which also supports the new matter rejection.

19. In regards to the argument that the modification of Hsu by Sharon destroys the operation of the device, the operation of Hsu is as a drawer cabinet with a drawer moving in and out and once the modification is done the operation is the same. Hsu teaches a construction for a cabinet with drawers, shelves and/or door. The proposed modification would change the way the structure of how the drawers connect to the cabinet, but that is the whole point and motivation of the modification. The drawers of the combination of Hsu in view of Sharon will still slide out of the cabinet just as was done before the modification. It is within one skilled in the art to use the drawer construction of Sharon while keeping the drawer face of Hsu to keep the aesthetics of the cabinet. Hsu and Sharon are silent with respect the function of the drawer guides because it is inherent that the purpose of drawer guides is to support a drawer and allow it to be slide in and out of enclosure. In regards to the drawer cabinet requiring separate fasteners, the limitation is the drawer cabinet, which is considered the enclosure or the side, rear, top and bottom panels, which Hsu discloses as using a spring tab to connect posts and apertures. Additionally the claim limitation is in the alternative, meaning that the cabinet can be shipped fully assembled and therefore would not require separate fasteners. In regards to the argument that Sharon does not enclose the front of the cabinet, the examiner considered this irrelevant since Hsu does disclose a cabinet with two drawers that enclose the front of the cabinet and furthermore the applicant does not disclose an embodiment with a single drawer enclosing the front

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of the cabinet. It is considered inherent that the drawer guides of Sharon prevent tipping and canting while supporting the drawers. As stated in previous office actions, the fact that a reference does not discuss a particular element in the specification does not mean that the element cannot be used as a teaching. The examiner has annotated drawings of Hsu to make it easier for the applicant to understand the spring tabs of Hsu and the examiner has annotated the rollers of Sharon to help in the description. There is no teaching to suggest that the spring tabs of Hsu are not spring tabs nor do not meet the limitations as required by the claims and the fact they were not described in the patent only means that they were not considered novel by Hsu. The rollers of Sharon clearly are rollers, there is no teaching to say that they are not rollers, and they appear to look like all the rollers well known in the prior art and therefore inherently are rollers. In regards to claim 17, Schenker teaches using cross bracing on the base panel of the drawer and not the base panel of the cabinet. It would be obvious to one skilled in the art to use the teaching of strengthening a base panel of drawer to apply that teaching to give more strength to the base panel of the cabinet. As stated above Sharon does teach rollers therefore it is unclear as to how it is related to the official notice with regards to the rejects with Hassel in view of Hsu. Further the applicant states that none of the references cited teach or disclose rollers, please note that the references cited in the IDS filed on 2/04/04 teach the use of rollers with sliding components. The official notice is used for the motivation, being that it is well known to use rollers to reduce friction as compared with sliding components. This is based on the basic knowledge and generally known knowledge that rolling friction has a lower friction force versus sliding friction.

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Hassel teaches rails formed on the inner surfaces of the side panels. Since the claim is a structure claim the method of how the rails are formed is irrelevant and is considered capable of being formed with the same structure by any known methods and materials since the "integrally molded" is considered a product by process statement. The phrase "integrally molded" only imparts that the vertical rails are formed as one piece with the panel and not that the panel is made from plastic. The examiner contends that is within the level of one skilled in the art to make a sheet metal side panel out of plastic using a known method of forming plastics such as injections molding, blow molding, or milling. Any of the methods can shape a panel with an integral vertical rail on the panel of Hsu in view of Hassel. Note: It has been held to be within the general skill of a worked in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. See MPEP § 2144.04. US Patent 5,496,105 to Czarnecky is a secondary reference to show one possible way this could be done. In regards to claim 17, Schenker teaches using cross bracing on the base panel of the drawer and not the base panel of the cabinet. It would be obvious to one skilled in the art to use the teaching of strengthening a base panel of drawer to apply that teaching to give more strength to the base panel of the cabinet. As stated above Hsu teaches spring tabs.

Conclusion

20. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy M. Ayres whose telephone number is (571) 272-8299. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-THU 8:00 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on (571) 272-6867. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TMA
3/27/07



JANET M. WILKENS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 3637